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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) Lustrous copper-based metal flakes that contain, in addition to copper, at least one additional metallic alloy component and are produced via vacuum deposition of metal films onto a carrier sheet, stripping of the films from the carrier sheet and subsequent comminuting of the films.

2. (original) Lustrous copper-based metal flakes according to claim 1, **characterized in that** the flakes contain at least 60% copper and between 2 and 40% zinc.

3. (currently amended) Lustrous copper-based metal flakes according to claim 1~~ or 2~~, **characterized in that** the flakes contain silicon as an additional alloy component.

4. (currently amended) Lustrous copper-based metal flakes according to ~~any of~~ claims 1~~ through 3~~, **characterized**

in that the flake-shaped effect pigment has plane-parallel surfaces and a thickness between 10 and 100 nm, preferably between 20 and 60 nm.

5. (currently amended) Lustrous, copper-based metal flakes according to ~~any of~~ claim~~s~~ 1 ~~through 4~~, **characterized in that** the surface of the pigment particles is coated with an anticorrosive layer.

6. (original) Lustrous copper-based metal flakes according to claim 5, **characterized in that** the anticorrosive layer contains aluminum oxide, silicon oxide, phosphate, phosphoric acid, phosphoric ester, phosphinic acid, silanes, organically modified silicates, titanates, zirconates or methacrylate-based polymer layers or combinations of these compounds.

7. (currently amended) A method for producing lustrous, copper-based metal flakes according to ~~any of~~ claim~~s~~ 1 ~~through 6~~ with the following process steps:

a) optionally applying a release coat on a carrier sheet;

b) applying of a metal film onto the release coat or the carrier sheet;

c) stripping of the metal film; and

d) comminuting to pigment particles.

8. (currently amended) A method for producing lustrous copper-based metal flakes according to ~~any of~~ claim 1 ~~through 6~~ with the following process steps:

a) applying of a metal film onto a carrier sheet;

b) dissolving of the carrier sheet; and

c) comminuting of the metal film to pigment particles.

9. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any of~~ claim 7 ~~or 8~~, **characterized in that** applying of the metal film takes place by separate evaporation of the alloy components.

10. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any of~~ claim 7 ~~or 8~~, **characterized in that** applying of the metal film takes place through separate evaporation of an alloy and one or more additional components.

11. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any of~~ claim~~s~~ 7 ~~through 10~~, **characterized in that** applying of the metal film takes place through electron beam, resistance heating, or radiation heating.

12. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any of~~ claim~~s~~ 7 ~~through 11~~, **characterized in that** applying of the metal film takes places through flash evaporation, simultaneous evaporation, or jumping beam evaporation.